

J. Glossary of Terms

Definitions:

100 - Year Floodplain - the limits of flooding having a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

100 - Year Flood Elevation - the elevation of a flood having a 1% chance of occurring in any given year.

BMP - Best Management Practices include structural devices and/or non-structural stormwater activities designed to reduce the quantity or improve the quality of urban stormwater runoff.

Buffer - a vegetated zone adjacent to a stream where development is restricted or controlled to minimize the effects of development

CRS - Community Rating System is a program for recognizing and encouraging community floodplain management activities that exceed the minimum NFIP standards, where flood insurance premium rates are adjusted to reflect the reduced flood risk resulting from community activities.

Cluster (Open Space) Development - buildings and development concentrated in specific areas to minimize infrastructure and development costs and impacts to natural areas while achieving the allowable density.

Compensatory Storage - floodplain storage created by removing an equal or greater volume of fill from the flood fringe than the storage volume lost due to fill in the flood fringe.

CUP - Community Unit Plan. Lincoln Municipal Code, Chapter 27.65: Permits and encourages the creative design of new living areas that allow for increased dwellings per area in exchange for increased open space and common areas. The CUP enables cluster development.

Detention Basin - a stormwater facility that collects and temporarily stores runoff to reduce peak flow rates and alleviate downstream flooding and erosion problems.

Easement - a legal agreement to restrict the type and amount of development that may take place on a piece of property.

Existing Urban Area - For the purposes of this discussion, the Existing Urban Area is defined as those areas inside the city limits at the time a new standard is adopted *as well as* those areas outside the City limits which have zoning designation other than AG (Agricultural) or AGR (Agricultural Residential) at the time a new standard is adopted.

Eminent Domain - The government's power to acquire property without the consent of the owner.

FEMA - Federal Emergency Management Agency.

FIS - Flood Insurance Study

Floodplain - those lands which are subject to a one percent or greater chance of flooding in any given year. This is commonly referred to as the “100 year flood plain”.

Floodway - the channel of a river or other watercourses and the adjacent land areas that must be reserved in order to discharge the base flood without cumulatively increasing the water surface elevation more than one foot. Floodways are mapped by FEMA and current regulations require development in floodways to meet a ‘No Net Rise’ standard.

Flood Fringe - area between the floodplain boundary and floodway boundary. Current regulations allow this area to be filled without regard to loss of flood storage.

Floodproofing- any combination of structural and non-structural additions, changes, or adjustments to structures which reduce or eliminate flood damage to real estate or structures.

Freeboard - A margin of safety added to the base flood elevation to account for waves, debris, miscalculations, or lack of data.

Green Space - defined in the Comprehensive Plan as areas predominantly used for active recreational uses, such as parks, golf courses, soccer or ball fields, and trails. Green space may also include areas of passive recreational uses as well as environmentally sensitive areas such as wetlands.

Habitat - an area or type of area that supports plant or animal life.

HEC-RAS - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Hydrologic Engineering Center River Analysis System. Computer simulation software for open channel one-dimensional steady flow hydraulics.

Hydrology Analysis - the study of the amount and rate of flow arriving to conveyance systems from rainwater runoff.

Hydraulic Analysis - the study of stormwater flow through the conveyance system that includes underground pipelines, culverts, improved open channels, and natural creeks.

Impervious - the characteristic of a material that prevents the infiltration or passage of liquids through it. This may apply to roads, streets, parking lots, rooftops and sidewalks.

Lowest Finished Floor- the lowest floor of the lowest enclosed area (including a basement). FEMA requires that the lowest finished floor be protected to one foot above the 100 year flood elevation.

Minimum Flood Corridor - the existing channel bottom width plus 60 feet plus six times the channel depth, with the corridor centered on the channel.

NFIP - National Flood Insurance Program makes Federally-backed flood insurance available to communities that adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances to reduce future flood damage.

New Growth Areas - For the purposes of these recommendations, New Growth Areas are defined as those areas outside the city limits and zoned AG or AGR at the time that a new standard is adopted.

No Adverse Impact - a managing principle and policy goal developed by the Association of State

Floodplain Managers to support long term, sustainable approaches to reducing the nation's flood losses now and in the future.

No Net Rise - term that indicates proposed land use revisions or changes in grade do not increase flood elevations at, upstream or downstream of the site.

Property Buyout - purchasing frequently flooded properties to demolish or relocate existing buildings and restoring the area to natural floodplains.

Public Infrastructure - areas of public land use, streets, and/or structures that serve the general public.

PUD - Planned Unit Development. Lincoln Municipal Code, Chapter 27.60. The PUD is an overlay zone permitting mixed land uses, and is intended to be used in combination with one or more of the City's existing zoning districts. The PUD also enables cluster development.

Retention Basin - a basin designed for the retention of stormwater, generally having a permanent water volume.

Riparian - the vegetated zone bordering a stream or river.

Runoff - the portion of precipitation that is discharged from a drainage area.

Substantial Improvement- Any reconstruction, rehabilitation, addition or other improvement to a structure, the total cost of which equals or exceeds 50 percent of the market value of the structure before the start of construction of the improvement. The definition of "substantial improvement" includes buildings that have been repaired after suffering substantial damage.

Surplus Property - property that has been found to be in excess of what is required.

Swale - an open drainage channel or depression explicitly designed to detain and promote the filtration of stormwater runoff.

Vacated Property - Property that has ceased to be occupied.

Watershed - a region of land that drains to a river, creek, or other body of water.

Wetland - areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions.